



Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham

***Rotherham Town Hall,
The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. S60 2TH
Telephone 01709 822722/1
Facsimile 01709 822734***

2nd February, 2018.

Councillor Clive Jepson.

Dear Councillor Jepson,

Council – 24th January, 2018

As you had to leave the Council Meeting on the 24th January, 2018 you were unable to ask your question and agreement was given to provide this in writing.

Your question was some time ago members were asked for their views on changing the timing of Council meetings to enable more members of the public as well as Councillors to attend. What was the outcome of this consultation and have any changes been considered.

The options offered in the survey for time for Council meetings to commence were 2.00 p.m., 4.00 p.m., 5.30 p.m. or 7.00 p.m.

70% of Members who responded favoured continuing to commence Council Meetings at 2.00 p.m. In view of this level of response it was not considered appropriate to seek to change the start time of Council meetings. However, nothing is set in stone, forever, and this question should probably be reviewed at the start of every term of the Council following all-out elections.

The Council webcasts its meetings and, therefore, the public can watch proceedings live or later through the website facility

Whilst it is important that meetings are accessible to the public, they must also be held at a time that the majority of Councillors can make so that no one is deprived of representation.

The Improving Lives Select Commission now meets at 5.30 p.m. on an evening and has had no noticeable impact in respect of improved attendance by Councillors or the public.

I trust this answers your question, but if I can help further in any way please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

C. Read

Councillor Chris Read,
Leader of the Council.